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CIA CLERK & LOVER NABBED ON SPY CHARGES



Accused rogue CIA clerk
Sharon Scranage.

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THE FBI has nabbed a Queens man — a relative of the dictator of Ghana — and his CIA clerk lover on espionage charges.

Michael Agbotui Soussoudia, 39, a native of Ghana who gave his address as St. Albans, Queens, allegedly seduced CIA clerk Sharon Scranage, 29, of King George, Va., into betraying the names of every agent in Ghana along with other top-secret intelligence information.

Both were charged with conspiracy to commit espionage at the Federal Court in Alexandria, Va. Soussoudia is a cousin or a

nephew to Ghana's strongman, Flight Lieut. Jerry Rawlings.

Both were ordered held without bond and face life in prison.

Miss Scranage, who has worked for the intelligence agency for nine years, served as an clerk-typist for the CIA in Accra, the capital of the West African nation.

FBI agent Julianne Slifco said Miss Scranage admitted her role during questioning Wednesday at CIA headquarters in Langley, Va.

Soussoudia was taken into custody Wednesday night at the Holiday Inn in suburban Springfield, Va.

Born in Ghana, Soussoudia listed his address as 189-07 Quencer Rd., Queens.

An FBI affidavit said the spying began in December, 1983, when Miss Scranage was assigned to the CIA station in Ghana.

She said she turned over to her lover:

- The identities of every CIA agent in Ghana, including the station chief.

- The identities of Ghanaians who were cooperating with the CIA.

- Operational plans for CIA espionage activity in Ghana.

Sources told The Post that at least five CIA agents based in Ghana have been recalled to the U.S. after realizing their covers were blown.

According to the affidavit, she admitted that on May 24, 1985, just before her departure from Accra, she met with Soussoudia and Ghanaian officials.

Sources said they believe Flight Lieut. Rawlings himself was present at the meeting.

At this meeting, Miss Scranage was asked to learn the identities of three Ghanaians who had supplied information to the CIA.